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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/558,421	04/26/2000	Deb K. Chatterjee	0942.3600002/RWE/RCM	9752
7590 12/22/2004			EXAMINER	
Sterne Kessler Goldstein & Fox PLLC Attorneys at Law 1100 New York Avenue NW Suite 600 Washington, DC 20005-3934			RAO, MANJUNATH N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1652	
DATE MAILED: 12/22/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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20041220

DATE MAILED:

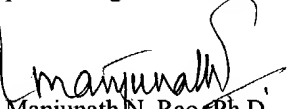
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**Commissioner for Patents**


Claims 1-6, 15-20 are currently pending and are present for examination.

Applicants' supplemental paper filed on 9-30-04 for initiating an interference has been considered and entered. All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is **SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS** from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0939. The Examiner can normally be reached on 7.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapura Achutamurthy can be reached on 571-272-0928. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300 for regular communications and for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1600.

  
Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1652

December 21, 2004

  
**BRUCE KISLIUK, DIRECTOR**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600**

Manjunath N. Rao, Ph.D.  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1652